THE PETITIONS OF NORTHAMPTON-SHIRE AND OXFORD-SHIRE.

PRESENTED VNTO THE HIGH COVRT OF PARLIAMENT:

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PETITIONS

OF

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE

AND

OXFORD-SHIRE,

PRESENTED

TO

PARLIAMENT:

LA 412
1642

TO THE HONOURABLE, THE KNIGHTS, CITIZENS and BVRGESSES of the *HOVSE* of *COMMONS* assembled in *PARLIAMENT.*

The humble Petition of the Knights, Gentlemen, and Free-holders of the Countie of NORTHAMPTON.

Sheweth,

THat the Petitioners (desirous to declare their reall approbations of your proceedings in *Parliament* ever since the beginning thereof) doe in all thankfull manner acknowledge the great pains and faithfulnes you have manifested in the good Lawes enacted, justice done upon Delinquents, and many heavy pressures removed, in divers Rites and Liberties restored, great dangers prevented, desperate Plots defeated, and provision made for their future prosperity and security, in the satisfaction given to all his Majesties loyally affected subjects, by publishing of your late Remonstrance of the state of the Kingdome, so necessary to the removing of those aspersions which were by malignant spirits cast on your proceedings, and preventing those evills which might have followed thereupon.

And whereas the Petitioners as well by your good beginnings as by your said Remonstrance have beene incouraged to expect a perfect Reformation of Religion, and happy settling of the af-

faires of the Common-wealth; but now to their great griefe doe find your good endeavours therein much interrupted and almoſt fruſtrated by the malignant Partie, deſignes dayly multiplyed againſt the Religion, Lawes and liberties of this Kingdome, dangers threatned from forreigne Invaſions and home Conſpiracies, perſons diſaffected to the peace of the Kingdome, tumultuouſly aſſembled to the great diſquiet of his Majeſties good Subjects, the Priviledges of *Parliament* lately broken in an unexampled manner, ſome Members of either Houſe charged and purſued in a ſtrange and unuſuall way, the Popiſh *Rebels* in *Ireland* increaſed in number and boldnes to practiſe inhumane and outragious cruelty againſt the *Proteſtants* there, many Bills and other good Propoſitions ſent from your Houſe paſſing no further; which the Petitioners looke upon as the iſſues of bad Councels, and the Voting of Popiſh *Lords* and *Biſhops* in the Houſe of *Peeres*.

The *Petitioners* humbly pray the continuance of your endeavors towards the perfecting ſuch Reformation in Church and Common-wealth as in your wiſedomes ſhall be thought fit: That the deſignes of ſuch as are popiſhly and ſeditiouſly affected may be fruſtrate and his *Majeſties* good Subjects ſecured from feare and danger. That you will bee a meanes to his *Majeſtie* and the *Houſe* of *Peeres*, that the Votes of popiſh *Lords* in that Houſe may be taken away, evill Councellors removed, the *Papiſts* diſarmed, and the perſons of the principall of them ſecured, the late deſignes againſt his *Majeſtie* the *Parliament* and *Kingdome* ſearched to the bottome, that the Authors of them may bee diſcovered and receive condigne puniſhment, whoever or how great ſoever they bee, the Tower of London, the Iſle of *Wight* and other places of importance to the ſafety of the Kingdomes put into ſuch hands as may be confided in; the *Militia* of the Kingdom ſo diſpoſed that it may bee in a poſture of defence upon any emergent occaſion; ſcandalous Miniſters outed; the *Proteſtants* in *Ireland* ſpeedily relieved, the *Petitioners* aſſured of the freedome of their perſons, as well as of the proprietie in their Eſtates, and thoſe Liberties derived to their

their posteritie which have beene preserved to themselves by vertue of their Ancestors, and that in all the particulars mentioned you will use all such lawfull waies and meanes as the present necessity and desperate condition wherein the Kingdome is shall suggest unto you.

And the *Petitioners* (according to their dutie) do humbly offer their persons, estates and utmost power to the defence of the Kings *Majestie*, the *priviledges* and *rights* of *Parliament*, your persons and Orders which shall bee for the Honour of God, the peace and happines of this Kingdome, against whatsoever power shall be employed to the danger of your persons and disturbance of your proceedings.

And to all shall adde their dayly Prayers to God for your safety and prosperity.

TO

TO THE

RIGHT HONOVRABLE

The Houſe of PEERS, now aſſembled in PARLIAMENT.

The humble Petition of the Knights, Gentlemen, Freeholders, and Subſidie-men, of the beſt rank and quality, in the County of OXON.

Sheweth,

THAT your Petitioners have for divers yeares, groaned under moſt heavy preſſures and grievances, both in our Religion, civill rites and liberties, which were growne to ſuch height, that they became unſupportable, and yet no hopes of redreſſe appeared to the eye of man, till it pleaſed the Almighty God of his infinite goodneſſe, to ſtirre up the Kings Majeſty to call this preſent *Parliament*, whereby our dying hopes were raiſed to very great and confident expectations of of a full and perfect Reformation; but they were ſoone abated to our exceeding great diſcouragment, by the lets and hindrances which are largly expreſſed in the late Remonſtrance of the ſtate of the Kingdome, ſet forth by the Honourable Houſe of *Commons*, ariſing from

from the indeavours of a Maligname party within this Kingdome: and (as we humbly conceive) from the Popish Lords and Bishops, Voting in the House of Peeres: Nevertheless we now cannot but entertaine new hopes of comfort, and of the happy proceedings and successe of this *Parliament*, beholding with unspeakable joy, your late concurrence with the Honourable House of *Commons*, especially in taking away the Votes of Prelats, and setling this Kingdome in a Posture of defence: which we do with all possible thankfulnes acknowledge.

Humbly beseeching your Lordships, that you would keep up our hopes by proceeding in your happy concurrence with the House of *Commons*, to a perfect Reformation, and particularly, in vindicating the priviledges of *Parliament*, discovering, punishing and removing evill Counsellors and Magistrates, taking away from the Popish Lords, their Votes in *Parliament*, utterly abollishing that Kingdome destroying Sin of Idolatry, together with Superstition and Arminianisme, so much professed and countenanced in our University: passing the Bill against Plurallities, and joyning in that order of the House of *Commons*, for the demollishing of Alters, and scandalous Pictures: And your Petitioners shall still have cause to look upon your Lordships with as high esteeme as ever our fore-Fathers did upon your most Noble Progenitors, and also with our best indeavours, will maintain you in your happy concurrence with the said House of *Commons*, in your Persons, Honours, and Dignities.

And your Petitioners shall ever pray, &c.

To

To the Honourable the *Knights, Citizens* and *Burgesses*, of the *House* of *Commons* assembled in PARLIAMENT.

The humble Petition of the Gentlemen, Freeholders, Subsidy-men and others of good Rank and quality, Inhabitants of the County of OXON,

Sheweth,

OUr most humble and thankfull acknowlegment of your exceeding great care and paines already taken, during this *Parliament*, to the hazarding of your healths and lives, in the endeavouring a removal of the many grievances in Church and Common-wealth: As also the continued Care, and unwearied endeavours, for a perfect Reformation: The *Remonstrance* whereof, as we cannot consider without unspeakable joy (it putting life into our languishing soules) so we desire it may be remembred with high esteeme by us and our Posterity for ever. And for that you under Almighty God, and his most excellent Majesty, are now called to the place of our chiefest hopes against all our evills: Your Petitioners humbly present our daily feares and distractions arising from the desperate Plots of the Malignant party of this Kingdome, and from the certaine reports of the most barbarous and bloody practices of the Rebells in *Ireland*; by whose prevailing and the small provision that is made for their suppressing and securing of this Kingdome against the like attempts, the said Party is much imboldened, the Petitioners feares augmented, their common Commerce and Trading abated, and the publike safety of the Kingdome endangered.

It is therefore the humble desire of your Petitioners, That some course may be taken as to suppresse those Rebells in Ireland: *so to put this Kingdome in such a Posture of defence, as the present condition thereof requireth: And that it may please you in our behalfes, to be a meanes to the Kings most gracious* Majesty, *and to the House of* Peers, *to perfect their indeavours by their concurrence with you, in punishing of Delinquents, and removing all those pressures and grievances, in Church and Common-wealth, with the Causes, and Causers of the same. And your Petitioners shall uncessantly pray unto Almighty God for the prosperous and happy successe, and withall, put forth our best endeavours to maintaine and defend the Kings most excellent* Majesty *and high Court of* Parliament *in their good endeavours and undertakings for the comfortable and secure setling of Religion, and Liberties against all malignant opposers whatsoever.*

FINIS.